

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-10 RSC-01 ISO-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10

PA-03 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-15 USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-13 AID-20

OMB-01 DRC-01 /198 W

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R 110802Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 979

INFO AMEMBASSY DACCA

AMEMBASSY KABUL

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

UNCLAS ISLAMABAD 7649

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PK, IN, BG, AF, US

SUBJ: BHUTTO SPEAKS ON AFGHANISTAN, NON-ALIGNMENT AND
RELATIONS WITH US

SUMMARY: PRIMIN BHUTTO, IN ADDRESS AT PESHAWAR, TOOK SHARP
EXCEPTION TO COMMENTS ON PUSHTUNISTAN BY AFGHAN REP AT
ALGIERS NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE AND WARNED KABUL AGAINST
PRESSING ISSUE. PRIMIN OBJECTED TO PAKISTAN'S EXCLUSION
FROM ALGIERS CONFERENCE WHILE OTHER STATES WITH MILITARY
LINKS TO SUPERPOWERS HAD BEEN INVITED, AND SUGGESTED THAT
CONCEPT OF NON-ALIGNMENT NO LONGER VALID. HE CRITICIZED PAST
US ARMS POLICY TOWARD PAKISTAN BUT WARMLY PRAISED US
ASSISTANCE DURING RECENT DISASTROUS FLOODS. END SUMMARY.

1. PRIMIN BHUTTO ARRIVED PESHAWAR MORNING SEPT 10
AT BEGINNING OF BRIEF VISIT TO NWFP FOLLOWING HIS
JUST-CONCLUDED POLITICAL TOUR OF BALUCHISTAN. ADDRESSING
AUDIENCE AT AIRPORT CEREMONY ON ARRIVAL, PRIMIN
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POINTEDLY CRITICIZED AFGHAN GOVT (ALTHOUGH NOT BY NAME)

FOR ITS PUSHTUNISTAN CLAIMS, COMMENTED UNFAVORABLY ON ALGIERS NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE, AND SPOKE ON RELATIONS WITH US. SUMMARY OF HIS REMARKS AS REPORTED IN LOCAL PRESS FOLLOWS:

2. AFGHANISTAN: BHUTTO TOOK STRONG EXCEPTION TO SPEECH BY AFGHAN DELEGATE PAZHWAK AT ALGIERS CONFERENCE IN WHICH LATTER WAS QUOTED AS ACCUSING PAKISTAN OF SUPPRESSING PUSH-TUNISTAN MOVEMENT AND TURNING IT INTO QTE ANOTHER BANGLADESH. UNQTE WITHOUT MENTIONING PAZHWAK OR AFGHANISTAN BY NAME, PRIMIN WARNED THAT SUCH QTE PURPOSELESS STATEMENTS UNQTE WERE BOUND TO WIDEN DIFFERENCES AND THAT GOP WOULD NOT BE RESPONSIBLE IF THEY CONTINUED. THOSE WHO SPOKE IN TERMS OF FURTHER BREAK-UP OF PAKISTAN, HE SAID, MUST BEAR IN MIND THAT IF A NEW BANGLADESH WERE CREATED, IT WOULD NOT BE IN PAKISTAN BUT IN TERRITORY OF THOSE COUNTRIES WHICH HELPED IN ITS CREATION.

3. NON-ALIGNMENT: PRIMIN ASSERTED THAT CONCEPT OF NON-ALIGNMENT HAD BEEN VALID DURING PERIOD OF SHARP US-SOVIET DIFFERENCES, BUT THAT ITS TIME HAD PASSED. IMPROVEMENT IN US-SOVIET AND US-CHINA RELATIONS HAD MADE NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCES UNNECESSARY. BHUTTO EXPRESSED REGRET THAT PAKISTAN HAD BEEN EXCLUDED FROM ALGIERS CONFERENCE BECAUSE OF ITS CENTO MEMBERSHIP WHILE OTHER COUNTRIES THAT MAINTAINED MILITARY PACTS WITH THE SUPERPOWERS -- EVEN ON THE SUBCONTINENT ITSELF -- HAD BEEN INVITED. SOME OF PAKISTAN'S ARAB FRIENDS HAD OFFERED TO ARRANGE INVITATION FOR PAKISTAN, HE SAID, BUT GOP HAD DECLINED BECAUSE IT DID NOT INTEND TO BEG FOR INVITATION. IN VIEW PAKISTAN'S SUPPORT FOR PEOPLES OF LATIN AMERICA AND FOR ARABS AGAINST ISRAEL, IT WAS NONETHELESS IMPROPER FOR ORGANIZERS OF ALGIERS CONFERENCE TO HAVE IGNORED PAKISTAN. IN ANY EVENT, HE OBSERVED, CONFERENCE HAD FAILED TO SOLVE ANY ISSUES DESPITE ITS LENGTHY SPEECHES.

4. RELATIONS WITH US: PAKISTAN HAD ALWAYS SOUGHT FRIENDLY RELATIONS WITH ITS NEIGHBORS AND OTHER COUNTRIES, PRIMIN SAID, AND HAD BEEN ABLE TO DEVELOP GOOD RELATIONS WITH BOTH CHINA AND SOVIET UNION. WITH US, PAKISTAN HAD A LONG-UNCLASSIFIED

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STANDING RELATIONSHIP WHICH HE WOULD TRY FURTHER TO STRENGTHEN DURING HIS FORTHCOMING VISIT. AT CERTAIN TIMES THESE RELATIONS HAD BEEN STRAINED DUE TO MISUNDERSTANDING, BUT LATTER HAD BEEN REMOVED, USG, WHICH ONCE DISAPPROVED OF PAKISTAN'S FRIENDSHIP WITH CHINA, WAS ITSELF NOW ESTABLISHING TIES WITH PEKING.

5. HIS DISCUSSIONS WITH US LEADERS WOULD BE HELD IN ACCORDANCE

WITH PAKISTAN'S NATIONAL INTERESTS, PRIMIN/CONTINUED.
OTHER COUNTRIES SHOULD HAVE NO FEAR THAT HE WAS GOING TO
US TO SEEK ARMS, AT SAME TIME, QTE PAKISTAN WAS AN ALLY
OF AMERICA, SHE HAD AGREEMENTS WITH HER AND WAS ALSO A
MEMBER OF CENTO. UNQTE US, THEREFORE, HAD OBLIGATIONS
TO HELP PAKISTAN. DESPITE PAKISTAN'S RIGHT, HOWEVER,
US ARMS SUPPLY HAD BEEN CUT OFF IN 1965. IF US COULD
HELP ITS FRIENDS IN CAMBODIA AND FIGHT IN VIETNAM FOR TWENTY
YEARS, BHUTTO SAID, IT SHOULD HAVE HAD NO HESITATION IN
HELPING ALLY SUCH AS PAKISTAN. (NOTE:GOVERNMENT-CONTROLLED
PAKISTAN TIMES REPORTED THAT BHUTTO HAD REFERRED AT THIS
POINT TO US SUPPORT FOR VIETNAM AND CAMBODIA AS QTE AGAINST
THE PRINCIPLES OF INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE UNQTE, PPI REPORT,
HOWEVER OMITTS THIS PASSAGE, LEAVING OPEN POSSIBILITY THAT
IT MIGHT HAVE BEEN INSERTED EX-POST-FACTO BY PAK TIMES
WRITERS.)

6. CONCLUDING HIS COMMENTS ON US, BHUTTO NOTED THAT USG
HAD PROVIDED NEARLY SIXTY PERCENT OF TOTAL FOREIGN AID
RECEIVED DURING RECENT FLOODS AND THAT PEOPLE OF PAKISTAN
WERE GRATEFUL FOR US HELP.
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